

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ZHANG, Caiteng

SERIAL NO.: 10/590637

ART UNIT: 1796

FILED: 23 August 2006

EXAMINER: Heincer, L. J.

TITLE: A SOLUTION OF METAL-POLYMER CHELATE(S) AND APPLICATIONS THEREOF

Amendment E: REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendments, previous Claims 42 - 72 have been canceled and new claims 73 - 103 substituted therefor. Reconsideration of the rejections, in light of the foregoing amendments and present remarks, is respectfully requested. The present amendments have been entered for the purpose of placing the application into a proper condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, it was indicated that Claims 42 - 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, there was an objection to the language "for immobilization of a bio-carrier". Additionally, there was an objection to the use of the term "a bio-carrier structure". Claims 42 - 72 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the claims were objected to as being generally narrative and indefinite.

Importantly, the Examiner has indicated that the claim which would be based upon Figure 3 would be allowable.

As an overview to the present reply, Applicant has canceled previous Claims 42 - 72 and have substituted Claims 73 - 103 therefor. In particular, new independent Claim 73 adopts language very similar to the suggested language of the Examiner with respect to the allowable structure of

Figure 3. In particular, independent Claim 73 indicates that the solution of solidified metal-polymer chelates comprises "0.1 to 99.87 percent by weight of water", "0.01 to 40 percent by weight of a carboxylic acid", "0.01 to 30 percent by weight of hydroxyl functional carbohydrate polymer", "0.01 to 30 percent by weight of a metal salt", and a "trace amounts of biological proteins". "Amino compounds" is inserted in lieu of the suggested term "ammonia", and is the sole departure from the claim language suggested by the Examiner. It is further indicated in independent Claim 73 that the amino compounds, the carbohydrate polymer, the metal and proteins form an amino polymer metal protein hybrid. Additionally, it is indicated that the metal iron acts as a bridge between the hydroxyl groups of the carbohydrate polymer and the amino compounds. As such, Applicant respectfully contends that independent Claim 73 should be in a proper condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims 76 - 79 correspond, respectively, to the limitations of previous dependent Claims 45 - 48. Dependent Claims 80 - 99 correspond, respectively, to the limitations of previous dependent Claims 52 - 71. Applicant has deleted certain claims herein which correspond to certain indefinite features found in previous independent Claim 42. New dependent Claims 100-103 have been added by the Inventor and do not appear to correspond directly to previously-submitted claims.

Based upon the foregoing analysis, Applicant contends that independent Claim 73 is in a proper condition for allowance. Additionally, those claims which are dependent upon Claim 73 should also be in a proper condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the present claims at an early date is earnestly solicited. Since no new claims have been added above those originally paid for, no additional fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

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